

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 0812F

Date of Senate Approval 12/06/12

Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

APC Document 4: **Change in major from B.A. in Art with a concentration in Art History to a B.A. in Art History**

Effective Date: Fall 2013

1. **Delete:** On page 72, under **Art (ART) and Art History (ARTH)** heading, the beginning of the second paragraph:

For students who wish to pursue art history studies, the department offers a B.A. degree with a concentration in art history. The concentration allows students...

Add: On page 72, in place of deleted entry:

For students who wish to pursue art history studies, the department offers a B.A. in Art History. The major allows students...

2. **Delete:** On page 72, under **Art (ART) and Art History (ARTH)** heading, fifth paragraph:

Overall, the art curriculum prepares students for advanced studies or admission into graduate programs and provides the basis for a variety of career opportunities. Art majors have five degree concentrations from which to choose:

Bachelor of Fine Arts—a pre-professional degree program for students who wish to pursue their studies at the graduate level

Bachelor of Arts—a liberal arts degree with an Art major

Bachelor of Arts, with a concentration in Art History

Bachelor of Fine Arts with K–12 Licensure—typically a five-year degree program

Bachelor of Arts with K–12 Licensure

Minors in art, described in more detail on the following pages, also are offered

Add: On page 72, in place of deleted entry:

Overall, the art curriculum prepares students for advanced studies or admission into graduate programs and provides the basis for a variety of career opportunities. Students may choose from the following:

Bachelor of Fine Arts—a pre-professional degree program for students who wish to pursue their studies at the graduate level
Bachelor of Arts with a major in Art
Bachelor of Arts with a major in Art History
Bachelor of Fine Arts with K–12 Licensure—typically a five-year degree program
Bachelor of Arts with K–12 Licensure
Minors in art, described in more detail on the following pages, also are offered.

3. Delete: On page 72, under **Art (ART) and Art History (ARTH)** heading, the last sentence on the page:

Students completing the Art History concentration complete ART 110 and 111 since these courses focus on the history and the theory behind two-dimensional and three-dimensional visual aesthetics.

Add: On page 72, in place of deleted entry:

Students majoring in Art History complete ART 110 and 111 since these courses focus on the history and the theory behind two-dimensional and three-dimensional visual aesthetics.

4. Delete: On page 73, under **Departmental Admission Requirements**, paragraph A.2.:

Before declaring a B.A. in Art, with a concentration in Art History, students must have credit for the following courses: LANG 120, and either ARTH 201 or ARTH 202.

Add: On page 73, in place of deleted entry:

Before declaring a B.A. in Art History, students must have credit for the following courses: LANG 120, and either ARTH 201 or ARTH 202.

5. Delete: On page 74, the heading:

Bachelor of Arts with a Concentration in Art History

Add: On page 74, the heading:

Bachelor of Arts in Art History

Impact: This move from a concentration in Art History to an Art History major will require no additional faculty. Currently, the Department of Art has two full-time tenure track faculty members—Cynthia Canejo, Ph.D., Associate Professor, specializing in Latin American and Medieval art and architecture; Leisa Rundquist, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, specializing in Modern and Contemporary art and theory—and two part-time faculty members—C. Jacob Butera, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, tenure track in Classics specializing in Ancient art, and Laurel Taylor, Ph.D., full-time Lecturer in Archaeology with a joint appointment in Art History and Classics, specializing in Italian Archaeology. In addition, we have a two-year Visiting Assistant Professor to add to our teaching capacity and enhance the Art History offerings: Eva Bares, A.B.D., specializing in critical theory, African art, and the art of the African Diaspora. The

Department of Art intends to propose a plan for a full-time Lecturer position for Eva Bares after this year.

No changes in curriculum are required for the Art History major. A schedule is in place for courses planned up until Fall 2017 (see Appendix A).

Currently, facilities are adequate for the Art History major. Art History classes are currently offered in Owen Hall, New Hall, or Karpen Hall; however, as the Art History program increases in size, any smart classroom across campus would be able to accommodate Art History courses. Thus, as presently accommodated, equipment and support for Art History courses will be supplied by ITS and Facilities Management.

No new teaching or research resources are required for the Art History major. The library holdings as well as online journal and ARTstor subscriptions, databases, and Interlibrary Loan services are adequate for a growing program.

Rationale: Currently, the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) with a concentration in Art History is one of seven areas (Painting, Drawing, Sculpture, Ceramics, Printmaking, Photography, and Art History) within the B.A. in Art degree. Other undergraduate degrees offered in the Department of Art are the Bachelor of Fine Arts and the B.A. in Art with Teacher Licensure.

While the Department of Art has offered a B.A. with a concentration in Art History since 2002, the program has expanded considerably since its inception. This expansion, evidenced by steady programmatic and student growth, merits a change in degree status. A B.A. in Art History degree would significantly affect the ability of our graduates to secure employment in art-related positions and entry into competitive graduate school programs. In order for the Department of Art to compete with the programs at the best liberal arts universities, we strongly feel that the change to B.A. in Art History is the next logical step for our department.

We currently offer an Art History curriculum covering visual art and culture from prehistory to the present. The wide range of rich and diverse courses developed include not only the introductory survey and the standard upper division requirements for the Art History major (such as Egyptian, Greek, Medieval, Roman, Baroque, Renaissance, and Modern art as well as Museum Studies, Theories and Methods, and the History of Architecture) but also incorporate World art and the Popular arts (i.e., the African Diaspora, Archaeology, Islamic art, Latin American art, the History of Craft, the History of Animation and Comix, and "Outsider" art) (see Appendix B). Through an emphasis on increasing student skills in critical thinking, writing, and oral presentation, senior capstone courses have been successfully aligned with the mission of UNC Asheville and the goals of the Strategic Plan.

The requirements for the Art History major (currently B.A. with a concentration in Art History) are in place and include two introductory courses (Prehistoric to Medieval and Renaissance to Contemporary) that give students a broad knowledge base; two Studio Art courses designed to give majors practical experience in art; four 300-level courses—one of which is a required World art course; one 400-level course that prepares the major for developing their capstone research paper; and two consecutive capstone courses.

In addition, the program's emphasis on research, following the unique focus on quality research at UNC Asheville, makes the Art History major appropriate for this university. The Art History program has demonstrated a strong commitment to independent research, emphasizing student skills in research, writing, and presentation. Every Art History student is required to complete a Senior Undergraduate Research Project and is encouraged to apply for research grants and publish their work. The successes of our students show the extent of our commitment to stressing critical thinking, thoughtful expression, and honest open inquiry; these aspects are significant components of the UNC Asheville mission. Our emphasis on undergraduate research follows the unique focus at UNC Asheville apparent since the inception of National Conference on Undergraduate Research.

Presently, Art History courses fulfill a wide range of requirements in the Integrative Liberal Studies program: intensives (including Writing, Diversity, and Information Literacy Intensives) and clusters (3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 13, and 14) in addition to providing students with numerous ARTS designated choices. Art History courses have been cross-listed with Africana Studies, Anthropology, Classics, New Media, and Religious Studies, and have been recommended as courses for students majoring in International and Interdisciplinary Studies. Additionally, the Art History program contributes to the greater liberal arts curriculum through three recently developed courses: "Outsider Art" in the 21st Century (LSIC/ARTH 379 colloquium), Art & Place (ARTS 310), and Gendered Places (ARTS 373, cross listed with WGSS). A large number of non-majors take Art History courses. Interest in the subject of Art History is attested by the fact that the majority of courses operates at, or above, capacity (see Appendix C).

Internship opportunities, incorporated into the Art History curriculum as ARTH 302, Internship, take advantage of our location in an arts community and allow students to explore career options and acquire professional experience. Internships have been implemented with organizations within the university (e.g., Highsmith Union University Gallery, Intercultural Center, Special Collections, and Ramsey Library) as well as in the community (Asheville Art Museum, Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center, Bookworks, Blue Spiral Gallery, and the Flood Gallery and Fine Art Center).

The positive impact of a B.A. in Art History on graduates of the program would be substantial. The creation of an Art History major would serve to expand current and future opportunities for Art History students in an already well-established department through the enhanced recognition of the Art History degree by outside institutions (in particular, graduate schools and employment prospects in arts institutions). Our record of alumni achievement is steadily growing, however; we believe that this record would be even stronger with the standalone degree.

At this time, the other two UNC institutions in Western North Carolina (ASU and WCU) do not offer a B.A. in Art History. UNC Asheville is not only uniquely suited to provide an Art History degree in tandem with a liberal arts education but would be the first university in the region to integrate the Art History major with a component of Craft Studies. The Department of Art currently offers a comprehensive program of Art History courses—ready for, and capable of, supporting a B.A. degree commensurate with its varied curriculum, university contributions, and outreach programming.

Art History faculty are active in inviting national and international scholars to UNC Asheville for lectures and classroom workshops and, thus, interact not only with a variety of departments on campus but also with the community at large. In the most recent collaboration, Art History has invited the award-winning independent animator, Emily Hubley, to UNC Asheville in Spring 2013. Working with other UNC Asheville departments—WGSS, and New Media—Art History faculty will be arranging a university and community-wide presentation, as well as a question and answer lunchtime talk with faculty and

students, on the subject of women's issues and filmmaking. This presentation was envisioned as a shared event supported by multiple on-campus programs (including the Humanities, New Media, WGSS, Studio Art, and Art History) as well as off-campus institutions (such as the Asheville Art Museum, AB Tech, WCU, and the Flood Gallery).

The Art History major, in following the mission of the Department of Art, will be directly linked to the University's mission in providing a broad, general education in the liberal arts and sciences. In addition, the Art History program will continue to integrate essential elements of UNC Asheville's Strategic Plan in our standard curriculum; for example, participating in undergraduate research (notably, since the inception of the Art History program, eleven students have been awarded UNC Asheville Undergraduate Research Grants for their senior projects and twelve Art History students have received the designation of University Research Scholar), engaging with the community (connecting via field research, internships, and joint projects), and providing a sustainable course of study (currently 38 credit hours are required). In following the emphasis in the Strategic Plan, Art History courses are interdisciplinary in nature and strongly address issues of diversity.